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THE DIRECTOR OF  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

National Intelligence Council

NIC 01322-84

27 February 1984

NOTE FOR: DCI  
DDCI  
C/NIC

FROM: John Horton  
NIO/LA

SUBJECT: Visit of Ambassador Pickering  
(El Salvador)

1. As you know, we are doing a pre-election SNIE on El Salvador that should come before NFIB on 6 March. Ambassador Pickering will take part in a debriefing session on 28 February here in the building during which we will get his views of the election.

2. We have told him that we would prepare an Interagency Assessment on death squads, both to do the definitive paper on this and also to put it in political context. For that reason we plan to do the paper when the election is over, as the death-squad operation will be affected by the results of the election. He requested the paper when expressing his displeasure at an Assessment done for Vice President Bush on the results of the Vice President's representations to the government of El Salvador.

  
John Horton

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THE DIRECTOR OF  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

National Intelligence Council

14 February 1984

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NOTE FOR: ADCI

FROM: John Horton  
NIO/LA

SUBJECT: Ambassador Pickering's Use of the SNIE  
on El Salvador

1. See the attached [ ] message from Ambassador Pickering about the SNIE, Near Term Military Prospects for El Salvador. Here is an example of an Ambassador getting some mileage out of a SNIE. The Chairman/NIC seems to despair at times about the circulation and readership of estimates. One might infer from this case that an Ambassador reaches for a SNIE when he is in deep trouble, as others turn to religion. "Whence cometh my help?"

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*John Horton*  
John Horton

Attachment:

cc: C/NIC

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